

HUNTING TRAILS

CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

Volume 1, Issue 6

"Over 1 Million Served"

3rd Quarter 2009

New Hunter Education Instructor Guides Hit Mailboxes

We have been talking about it for over a year at banquets, in newsletters and memos and it has arrived. Every Hunter Education Instructor should have received their new 2009/2010 Hunter Education Instructor Guide for use with the new 2009/2010 Student Guide effective July 1st. The new guide marks just one step in a lot of work by both MDC staff, instructors and Kalkomey Enterprises to move to this more instructor-friendly publication.

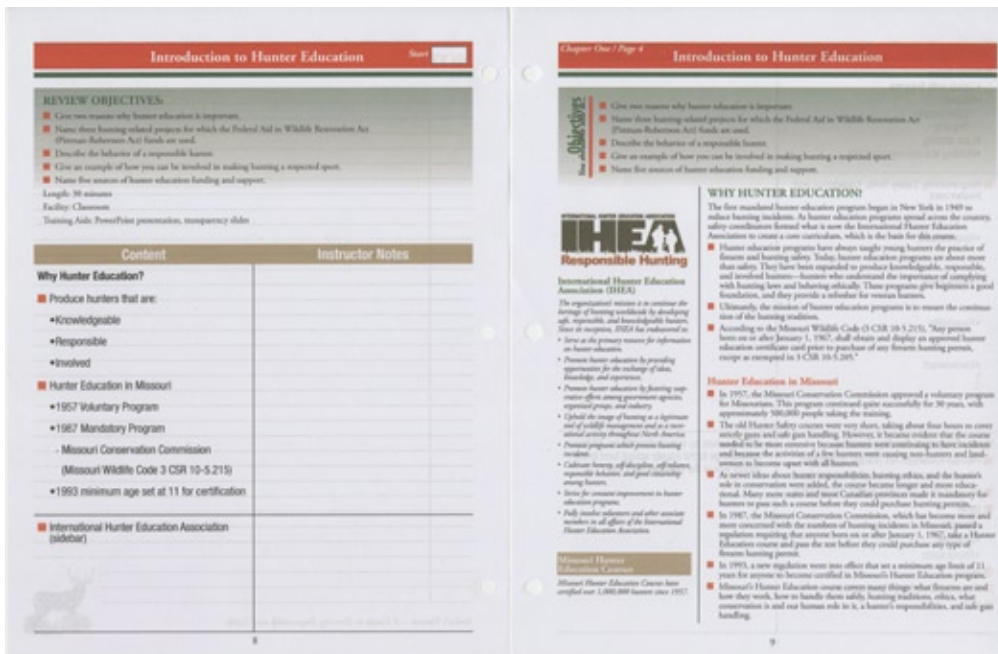
As pictured the guide incorporates both the new student guide and the instructor guide into one classroom plan. When an instructor uses the guide, they will find that the right-hand side of the open binder the exact page from the student manual you are covering. On the left hand side of the binder will be the instructor's page that lists the minimal items to be covered from that student page to meet the objectives. Instructors then expand on those listed minimums and can make notes for themselves in the left page margin as reminders or to keep track of additional information. This new manual should help instructors keep on track when teaching or helping assistant instructors help each other through the class.

This new design also helps with future changes in the student guide or errors found in the Instructor Guide. Its loose-leaf design allows for us to send out just pages that are affected by any changes to either guide. Instructors can just pull and replace those changes, leaving all their personal notes and information intact in their guide on unaffected pages. This should also allow us to respond faster and with less expense to keep instructors up to date with teaching materials.

If you never received your new Instructor Guide, copy of the new 50 question test for students and 50 question answer sheet, please contact your regional OSS. We did receive a few back from those who have moved, but we have not received your new address.

There have been some errors found

in the Instructor Guide for which you will need to correct until we send out the updated pages. If you have provided your email address you have already received those changes and any changes since this newsletter has been printed. If you have not received these notices or are not receiving other instructor messages, please send an email asking to be added to our notices. We will add you to the email notification



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Coordinator's Corner

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator
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Wow, here it is July and basically six months gone already and hunting seasons are just around the corner. Have to admit things have been hectic for us all, office and field, with book shortages, new instructor guide, new books, new test coming, online field days, pilots for online registration taking place. But you all have weathered it all and the hard effort is paying off from the great comments coming in from the public and officials alike on instructors and courses.

Hope everyone had a great turkey season, mine was fantastic. I've heard great, good, fair and bad, just depending on where you were in the state it seemed. Took several folks out this year again and they scored their toms and got my biggest ever at 29 lbs. One of my biggest thrills was having my grandson Seth with me in the woods this season, hopefully he will be able to score a tom this fall when he turns six.

Have been getting a lot of input on things and ideas from the field and bunches of emails. We are looking at all of them and you may see some more of your ideas in the future. We all still have a way to go and we still need everyone's help as we look to the future of Hunter Education in Missouri and reaching today's and tomorrow's hunter.

Some of the things we are moving on are the Bowhunter Education program and coordinating with NBEF to get some changes to the student manual and creating a new Instructor Guide. We are working with IHEA to create an Instructor Online Training Course that covers the basics of teaching, classroom management, and many other things. We are also working on a Missouri HE Instructor Certification Academy for new instructors after they take the online course. They will attend an instructor academy that conducts training on state specific items, conduct videotaped teaching and evaluations, handle classroom situations, etc. and once both the online course and academy are completed and passed, they will be immediately certified as a full instructor.

Well we have a lot of good information in this issue and some great stories, so enjoy and think about submitting your own stories or special photos to be considered for upcoming articles. Just email them to me and we'll take a look at them and if approved, place them in the queue for a future newsletter.

Thanks and be Safe!!

listing to get the latest in instructor notices instead of waiting until the next quarterly newsletter comes out.

Changes instructors need to make to the new Instructor Guide are: Instructor Guide (IG), Student Guide (SG).

- Need to update the date on IG cover to 2009/2010.
- Change IG page 46 question 12 answer to c not b.
- Pages 46-47 - Question #13 - Change wording in IG to match SG.
- Pages 46 - 47 - Question #16 - Change wording in IG to match SG.
- Pages 66 - 67 - Question #7 - Change wording in IG to match SG.

Question #8 - Change wording in IG to match SG.

- Pages 84 - 85 - Question #2 - Change wording in IG to match SG.
- Pages 122-123 - Question #6 - Change wording in IG to match SG.

Question #7- Change wording in IG to match SG..

- Page 153 needs to be page 76 of the Student Guide not page 75 a second time (as also found on page 151 of the Instructor guide)
- Pages 162-163 - Question #2 and #3 are in reverse order in the IG and wording in questions is different between IG and SG. Change to match SG.
- Pages 202-203 - Question #3 - Change wording in IG to match SG.

Question #7 and #8 are in reverse order in the IG Pages

Question #12 - Wording of answer different between SG and IG

There is also the new Student Guide that is to be used starting July 1st, all older versions are not to be used and should be turned into you local Conservation Agent and/or regional OSS. Here is a listing of the changes from last year's student guide and this year's. Again, if we have your email address you have already received this list.

Changes to 2009/2010 from 2008/2009 HE Student Guide

- Cover – Date
- Inside cover – photo of 2008 HE Volunteer Instructor of the Year
- Page 1 – update of photo credits
- Page 40 – game bag change to orange color
- Chapter 5 pages reorganized to add crossbow info addition
- Chapter 5 review questions - # 3 a. answer corrected, crossbow questions added.
- Page 6 right side bar under “Using Firearms at the Shooting Range” – new second and third bullet point added
- Page 78 – graphic of waterfowl hunters, orange hats and vests removed.

- Page 88 – updated web addresses
- Page 90 – left sidebar – text below hunting plan graphic added
- Page 101 - below graphic showing quivers, text on Atlatl has been added.
- Page 103- much of the text updated and additional added
- Page 123 – Addition of Trumpeter Swan, due to last year's problems with accidental kills
- Page 128 –Number three rule corrected
- Page 129/inside cover – photo of 2008 Conservation Agent Instructor of the Year, addition of Quail Forever info with Pheasants Forever info

After a couple of month's and we are comfortable all error's in the IG have been found we will be sending out replacement pages for those pages with errors.

Central and St. Louis Region Instructors Chosen to Pilot HE & BHE Class Online Registration

Due to the public demands and comments over the past several years, availability of the internet and the need to be efficient and save tax dollars, starting August 15th the Department is piloting an online registration system for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Classes in the Central and St. Louis Regions.

The system is simple and easy for students to go online and preregister for a class. Our classes are primarily made up of youth and youth today for the most part are very tech savvy. Even at a young age they are on computers at school, library, home, relatives or friends homes, parents work, on laptops with wireless connections, internet on their phones and many other places.

So what does this do for MDC and instructors? Well it saves thousands of dollars in numerous areas (course pre-registration forms, student bubble forms, instructor bubble forms, class rosters, bubble form scanning and reports), manpower (distribution of forms, correcting and filling forms at regional offices, loading each class manually into the system at Jefferson City, shipping bubble forms to be read, receiving and filling forms from reader, manually loading every student and instructor from any and every class that came back from the reader even due to one error on one form, a lots of classroom and instructor time and headaches (sending in course registration forms, getting forms filled out in class and without mistakes, manually filling out class rosters, filling out instructor reports correctly, mailing or transporting forms to MDC office or staff, etc.)

This is the pilot stage only, so here is how it going to work currently; Instructors from each of these region's counties are loaded into a management program that is accessible online. Depending on the region's guidelines, instructors go in and set up a class, by location, date(s), time(s), capacity,

etc. A notice is sent to administrators who will review the information and if found ok, approve the course. The course will then show up online and students can sign-up online, it also prevents students from registering for multiple classes at the same time and causing thousands of no-shows each year.

Students register with all the information required on the current student bubble form, plus some contact info, i.e. phone number and email address. They then show up on the class (event) roster that can be viewed by the instructors for that class. Seven days before the class, registration is cut off and the instructors know how many students to plan on, their names, DOB, email address and phone number. Instructors can send group or individual emails right from the system with reminders, updates, cancellations, maps, etc. Before the class the instructor prints out their class roster already in alphabetical order and conservation numbers assigned.

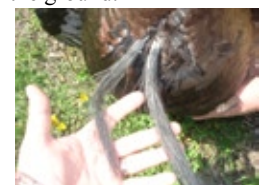
At the class, instructors just have students check in as they arrive, no time lost in class doing bubble forms and trying to get them right and extra classroom time is gained. After the final test, instructors only place a pass, fail or no-show next to each student on the roster, give out a temporary certificate and patch to those passing.

One of the instructors takes the class roster to home, work, MDC office or where ever they have internet access. Go in to the instructor web site and complete the instructor roster and from a drop down menu, give each student on the roster a pass, fail or no-show and then click submit, 5 minutes and done. Other than submitting the printed roster to the regional office for filing, everything is done. Everything is in the system, instructors get credit for their teaching and points quicker, students should get their Conservation Heritage card sooner, and nothing else has to be done.

There will be accommodations for those students without web access and instructors to allow walk-ins, however this will require more work for staff and instructors. Remember this is a pilot and it will change over the pilot period, and then there will still be a decision to go state wide or not.



O&E Field Chief, Patti Redel poses here with her first gobbler. A real trophy after years of hunting. It weighed in at 25 lbs, with 1 in spurs and double beard about 12 in. She had several gobbling birds close in around her that morning and with one shot from a 16 gauge, the big tom hit the ground.



It Happened To Me!!!

***Instructor; Sara Jean Peters
St. Clair County***

I grew up going to the woods...like Aldo Leopold, I'm one of those who can't exist without the sounds of wild geese (and MO snows are much more vocal than OH Canadas!). Hard to believe that others wouldn't share this rapture, although I knew they existed.

Shortly after I retired from the Ohio Division of Wildlife and moved to MO, a coworker suffering from diabetes, blind and losing body parts, was forced into disability retirement. I donated a wild turkey hunt on my place (which, to his great chagrin, brought more than a personally guided duck hunt by the assistant chief of the Division). This morphed into an annual contribution of a spring turkey hunt to the Cincinnati chapter of the Safari Club which has raised considerable funds: I've met some very interesting people! When we formed our local Quail Forever chapter, I donated a hunt to the auction. OOPS! Everyone around here has a place to hunt. The offer went (to a committee member!) for a relative pittance. OK. Country folk have a place to hunt...city folks don't. Offered a youth hunt to the Springfield Chapter of QF...split the proceeds with my chapter. It worked...but far beyond what I would have imagined and came to roost on my shoulder.

The fellow (Glenn) who won the bid had a step-son steeped in modern technology. Glenn had been introducing him to the world beyond iPod and the youth hunt on my place was a place to cement that handshake. Glenn works out of town...is only home on weekends. Joe is 14, an accomplished musician and computer game player. Show him a maze once and he'll be able to run it in reverse. The weekend was a dance as Glenn drew Joe into the early morning woods. He managed to call in two separate longbeards, although neither presented a good shot. It was enough, however, to make Joe's heart go pitty pat! Joe is far from committed to the outdoor experience: I don't think he's peed in the woods yet! However...he told Glenn he'd like to scout another hunting place with him and Glenn reports getting some really great hugs over the weekend.

For those of us who have grown up, knowing and loving the woods, it's sometimes difficult to step back and realize that it isn't everything to all people. Will Joe ever give up his iPod? Probably not. Does he recognize the importance of time in the woods to his step dad? You betcha! He may never be hooked solidly, hunting on his own, but he'll continue to nibble at the bait and appreciate the lure the outdoors has for others.

***Instructor; Tim Moore
Higginsville, Mo***

Dave Wyatt (OSS KC) phoned me and asked if I would be available to assist a Wheel Chair bound hunter on the MDC Sponsored Youth and Disabled Hunter Managed Turkey Hunt at Smithville Lake on May 9 and 10. I immediately said yes and asked for information about the hunter I would be assisting.

After I got John's name and telephone number I made contact with John by telephone and after talking a little with John I had my apprehension about what I was putting myself into. John was 54 years old and had been confined to a wheelchair 30 plus years. John was an avid outdoors person even with his limitation.

We met up at the check in station on the morning of the hunt. We loaded up into his car and proceeded across the field to travel to the location of the blind we were assigned. Well, John found a drainage ditch the hard way. His front wheels dropped into the ditch which bottomed the frame of his car and we were helplessly stuck. A quick phone call back to Dave and he arrived with chain to pull us out.

Now I am wondering if all my apprehension was coming true and this was the start of a terrible weekend. After Dave pulled us out, we proceeded to drive on down to where our blind was set up. John got his wheelchair out and I set up the decoys. After I had John situated inside the blind, I moved his car safely away from our hunting area.

After we got all situated in the blind and made a few calls and had turkeys answer, we thought our luck had changed. John and I visited and talked about being out in nature and how he normally does go deer hunting but this was his first opportunity to go on a Turkey Hunt. The more I visited with John the less apprehensive I was of the weekend. We eventually had some turkeys show up but they would never get closer than 100 yards from our blind.

When we ended the hunt for the day at noon, we decided to move our blind to where we had been seeing the turkeys and hope they would show up the same place on Sunday. We went back to base and had lunch and visited with the other hunters and mentors. Even though no turkeys came close enough to present a shot, we both called the day's hunt a success. We saw legal game and had a bonus of seeing deer grazing among the turkey.

Sunday morning came and it started a lot better than Saturday had gone. We did not get stuck on the way to the blind. After getting all set up and waiting, we were rewarded with the sight of a big Jake and two hens. They came out right where we expected them to show and came within 55 yards but still not close enough for a clean shot. We called and got their attention but other than the curious head raise they ignored our calls and decoys.

We saw 15 different turkeys during the day with at least 4 legal birds. But unfortunately, none would come close enough for a shot. Again, even though we did not harvest a bird we both thought the hunt was worthwhile and enjoyed each others company and camaraderie.

Would I volunteer to assist in another Disabled Hunt? You bet. To all of the volunteers who have already assisted with a Disabled Hunt, I applaud you. To the rest of you, I highly recommend that if you have the time; volunteer to assist in one of these hunts. The satisfaction you get from the thanks and appreciation of the Disabled hunter justifies any hardship you might encounter.

"Guns" *A collaborative effort between the Crawford County Sheriff's Department and the Missouri Department of Conservation will provide modified guns to be utilized in hunter education classes in the region.*



Pictured are Sheriff Randy Martin and Conservation Agent Tim Tallent.

Hunter education students will soon have the chance to practice with the real deal—actual guns—as they learn about firearm safety.

Twenty-five shotguns, rifles, pistols and revolvers of a variety of actions and calibers were donated from the Crawford County Sheriff's Department to the Missouri Department of Conservation on May 19 to be used in hunter education classes in the St. Louis region (of which Crawford County is a part.) A few more are in process, so that a total of 30 will be given for the program. "This is the biggest collection donated since I've been around," Crawford County Conservation Agent Tim Tallent said.

The guns will be modified by a gunsmith, who is also a volunteer instructor in Franklin County, to make them safe for the classroom. The barrels will be plugged and firing pins removed so that they cannot be loaded or fired. However, the rest of the guns will remain intact so that they are functional and students can learn about different types of bolt-actions and sights. The guns will be put together in kits of seven, with five long guns and two pistols in each.

"A big part of hunter education classes is gun safety," Tallent said. "I want kids to be able to practice with a real

gun." The courses include four hours of classroom time devoted to firearms and how to properly use them. Tallent explained they start right away by asking, "What's the first thing you do when you pick up a gun?" and they tell them, "Point it in a safe direction." He added, "This is a worthwhile program. We're saving lives every year by teaching kids how to safely handle guns."

"We really appreciate the sheriff and Major (Darin) Layman taking the time to do this," Tallent said. The two departments worked together to obtain the appropriate court order to allow the donation. Layman reported that Tallent worked on paperwork while he sorted through the inventory of several hundred guns in the evidence room to pick pieces appropriate for the program. He added that there will be "more of this to come." Both departments hope to continue this program to benefit communities through the gun safety courses.

Hunter education classes are targeted at kids age 11 and above, so it is primarily youth who will benefit from the hands-on practice. Tallent also pointed out that it's not only about hunting—most gun accidents occur at home. Sheriff Randy Martin agreed and said it's important to teach kids how to properly handle a firearm because they are curious about them.

The guns donated to the hunter education program all came from violent felony cases, some dating back to the late nineties, but with 17 from one meth lab bust in 2004.

Major Darin Layman, who takes care of evidence for the sheriff's department, explained that when a weapon is used in a violent crime, there are three options for the piece once the case has been closed. They can go to family members, to a program like hunter education or be destroyed. And he said, in the overwhelming majority of cases, the court orders the destruction of the guns. The firearms donated at this time were ones that would have been destroyed by court order.

Hunter education courses will be offered in Crawford County in August and September.

Wind Challenges Youth at State Trap Championship

Many thanks go to the Hunter Ed and Range Volunteers as well as O&E Staff who helped at the Missouri State High School and FFA Trapshooting Championship, held on April 25, 2009. 634 shooters came from all over the state to compete at the event, held at the Missouri Trapshooters Association (MTA) headquarters at Linn Creek. Shooters found themselves competing not only with other students, but also challenged by the wind which became quite brisk by mid morning. I was impressed by watching shooters respond to the tricks that wind can make a clay target do, including sudden lifts, drops, and those beloved "sail-aways."

In 2002, MDC repartnered with MTA to operate this event.

This year, 20 HED and Range Volunteers and 21 O&E Staff members worked with 37 staff and volunteers from MTA. A big thanks goes to everyone involved, especially our volunteers who spent long hours in those scoring chairs:

Barry Cagle	Don Draper	Bill Morton
Lance Martin	Doug West	Kyle Case
Kyle Schneider	Tim Moore	Priscilla Moore
Richard Nichols	David Rapson	Bill Coverdell
Bill Bravo	Willis Corbett	Terry Yokeley
Carl Moritz	Denny Williams	Chuck Pierce
Lynn Pierce	Josh Petty	

Although there were no perfect 100 scores this year, there were lots of 99's, resulting in multiple shoot-offs. After the smoke cleared, results are:

Individual male champion--Brandon Alexander from Kansas City (score of 99)

Individual female champion--Meggan Orle from Branson (score of 98)



High School Team champions--Branson Trap Team #1 (score of 484)



Jr. High School Team champions—Branson Trap Team #3 (score of 413)

Many thanks to Commissioner Chip McGeehan who attended the event and presented each award. More information about the championship including the complete scores can be found at MTA's web site at <http://www.motraps.com>

"I hunt because I love the entire process: the preparations, the excitement, and sustained suspense of trying to match my woodsmore against the finely honed instincts of these creatures. On most days spent in the woods, I come home with an honestly earned feeling that something good has taken place. It makes no difference whether or not I got anything: it has to do with how the day was spent." Fred Bear



Because You Asked?

During last year's banquets we were told that attending active instructors would be getting a banquet attendance gift, a backpack, what happen to them?

We are calling this the great backpack debacle. We had selected a backpack that could be used by instructors as a training aid to show students how to set up a proper day pack for hunting and be functional for our instructors. Unfortunately, by the time the last banquet was completed and we had lists of all the attending instructors, the manufacture discontinued the backpack.

Due to the cost, approx \$30 each we could not purchase a large number of extra packs and had to get an accurate count of attendees. When we started looking for a substitute back pack with the features we promised the cost doubled and prevented the purchase. However, Maggie Loethen not willing to admit defeat kept looking diligently for a replacement.

She recently found one, but to follow state guidelines she had to send out bid requests. We should have the results soon. Once we receive them they will be embroidered and shipped out to all attendees.

We are already working on next year's banquet attendance gift to hopefully avoid this problem again.

IHEA 2009 Conference in Ontario – Bring 'em In! Bring 'em Back!

Wednesday

Wednesday started with an IHEA board meeting. The National Shooting Sports Foundation also sponsored a Best Practices for Recruitment and Retention of Hunter's workshop for those arriving early. Disseminating this information in a workshop the day before the conference allowed administrators the opportunity to accomplish multiple tasks/trainings during one event.

Thursday

Thursday started with opening ceremonies conducted by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the host of the conference – Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

After the opening ceremonies, Mike D' Abramoni discussed how to reach Generation Y and Millennial's during his presentation on Youthography – Attitudes toward Hunting and Fishing "What does our Future Look Like?" Afterwards Bill Troubridge and Lee Zimmerman held a session on Alternative Opportunities for Recruitment and Retention.

During the IHEA Awards Luncheon, Federal Premium awarded the IHEA Instructor of the Year award to Ray Johnson of North Pole, Alaska.

Bob Davis, Manager NRA Hunter Services Department, won the Dr. Ed Kokicky Award for his service to the IHEA.

There were three inductees to the IHEA Hall of Fame: James Bell (GA), Wayne Jones (NY) and Dave Kubas (CT).

Jim Wentz received the Executive Directors Award in recognition of his service with the IHEA on-line hunter education program and his efforts in hosting the IHEA website and list serve.

The Gladney Davidson Award went to Winchester Ammunition. The NRA Hunter Services Department, Bob Davis – Manager, won the Industry Award.

In recognition of his development of the Southeastern States Hunter Education Program, Dr. Jim Neale received the Innovations in Technology Award.

Tim Coleman of West Virginia was honored for his service under adverse circumstances with the Darrel Holt Award. (Tim Lawhern also gave an update on Tim's battle over the past year and his remarkable recovery.)

J. Thomas Saldias, Zone IV instructor representative from Peru, received the Past Presidents Award for his efforts in developing the Spanish version on the IHEA course and his efforts with South American countries.

David Dodson of Virginia received the Professional of the Year Award and Mark Birkhouser of New Mexico was the recipient of the Outgoing President Award.

After the awards luncheon on Thursday, afternoon sessions included a marketing workshop and round table discussion hosted by Wayne East. There was also a session on the IHEA website orientation and the National Archery in the Schools Program. Committee meetings finished out the remainder of the afternoon.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters hosted a vendors reception and wild game hors-d'oeuvres on Thursday evening. Several vendors participated offering many new products and special discounts to hunter education programs.

Friday

Friday's activities were all demonstrations of hands on activities to assist in teaching hunter education students the skills needed to be a successful hunter. Hunter Safety Systems provided additional demonstrations on how to safely install and use a treestand.

Saturday

Saturday started with a plethora of seminars and activities. IHEA Zone I Volunteer Instructor Representative, and host of the IHEA conference – Bill Blackwell – lead a Wild Turkey Hunter Education Program Seminar. Tim Lawhern (WI) provided a New Administrator Orientation. Thomas Baumeister (MT) and Kalkomey Enterprises gave an overview of the new IHEA On-Line Instructor Training Program for Hunter Education in North America. Jerry Soukup (AK) led an overview of the new Muzzleloader Education Program. Chris Wyatt, Ontario Chief Firearms Officer, gave an overview of Canadian Firearms Laws, Border Crossing and U.S. Relevancy.

There were also seminars and activities of interest for instructors who desired to attend the conference. Tim Cameron discussed Class Related Techniques and Tools. John Louk (TMA) provided a Treestand Safety seminar, and Dr. James A. Tantillo (Cornell University) discussed Hunting Ethics for Instructors.

The IHEA business meeting started with a roll call. We had just enough members to make a quorum. This was a major election year and without a quorum, the board would have had to make the appointments. A special "thanks" to every member that jumped through "fiery hoops" to be sure there was a delegate present at the meeting.

Other Business Meeting Business

After the zone reports, we heard the committee reports. The constitution and by-laws committee presented three changes. All three passed. Following is a short synopsis of these changes:

1. After two years of service, the president-elect will serve as president with a simple majority vote of confidence from the membership.

2. The president will appoint a committee member from each of the four zones to serve on each of the committees.
3. The transfer of funds from trust accounts to the general expense account must be approved by the board of directors.

Board of Director's Election Results:

Tim Lawhern (WI)	New President, replacing Mark Birkhauser (NM)
Jeff Hopkins (IL)	New President Elect, replacing Tim Lawhern
David Windsor (IN)	Secretary/Treasurer (ran unopposed)

Future Conferences

2010 – Colorado will host the 2010 IHEA conference June 2-5, 2010 at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, CO.
stanleyhotel.com



2011 – Mexico, North Carolina and Missouri all placed bids for the 2011 conference. North Carolina was awarded the bid and will host the 2011 conference at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort in Wrightsville Beach, NC.

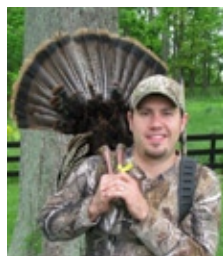
The 2011 conference is scheduled for June 1-4, 2011.

These are your conferences. Please give us your thoughts on how we can improve them to serve you better.

Banquet and Auction

The conference ended with the annual IHEA Banquet and Auction on Saturday evening. During the banquet, Brian Thurston of gave out the prizes instructors received from their distribution of the Hunter's Handbook.

Remember to mark your calendar for June 2-5, 2010 in Estes Park, CO, and please give us suggestions on what we can do to benefit you, your staff, your volunteers and your program at these conferences.



Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Jake Hindman
jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov

Well, first of all, I am very excited to be a dad. Our daughter has kept us up during the night some, but so far it has been fairly smooth. (My wife does most of the work) It's a toss up whether her first noise will be a word or some sort of animal sound, I vote for a gobble.

Speaking of turkeys, this past turkey season was challenging, interesting and humbling but in the end it was a lot of fun. During the first week of season, I had a bird gobbling well on top of a ridge, by the time I got close to him he had shut up, but I knew I couldn't be more than about 80 yards from him. After calling, I set up about 20 yards from the crest of a hill. I had called for about 10 minutes and suddenly I starting hearing footsteps in the dry leaves. I was pretty positive that it was the gobbler that had been so close earlier and he was sneaking in silently. I pointed my gun in that direction as the sound was getting louder and closer. Within seconds I found myself looking down my gun barrel at a young doe. I was so caught off guard and nervous that my mind had made me think that the noise I heard was the gobbler. This is a classic example of how hunting incidents happen year after year. While I was pointing my shotgun in that direction I still had the safety on and my finger was not near the trigger. The scary thing is that your mind can convince you that what you hear is what you are hunting, and when you see movement if your finger is on the trigger it may be too late. When teaching hunter education, please stress these important points, you just might save someone's life.

Listed below are the programs that will be offered at Henges in July, August and September. If you are interested in attending or helping teach please let me know.

July

- 22 Sporting Clays
- 28 Discover Nature – Women: Basic Trap Shooting

August

- 1 Basic Trap Shooting

- 3 Intermediate Trap Shooting
- 4 Discover Nature – Families: Basic Archery
- 6 How to use Trail Cameras.
- 8 Youth .22 Rifle
- 10 - 12 Hunter Education
- 13, 15 Discover Nature – Women: Basic Handgun
- 25, 27 Wingshooting
- 26 Sporting Clays
- 29 Youth .22 Handgun

September

- 1, 2 & 3 Bowhunter Education
- 5 Bowhunting Whitetail Deer Seminar
- 11 - 13 Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way...
- 19 Discover Nature – Women: Basic Shotgun
- 22 - 24 Hunter Education
- 30 Hunting Fall Turkeys Seminar

Enjoy the summer!



Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald Counties
jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov



Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney Counties
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What a turkey season! Harvest record for this spring indicated a noticeable decrease in the harvest rate (down 3.6% from 43,416 last year to 41,830 birds harvested this spring), but many of us remember the days in Missouri when wild turkeys were as scarce as shotgun and rifle primers are today. The landowners, sportsmen and conservationists who made a two bird, three week season possible in our State probably never dreamed that someday Missouri turkey hunters would bag over 40,000 birds a spring. Their efforts are what made the many Southwest Region turkey hunting related success stories this spring, and here are a few of my favorite.

I'm only going to share generalities, not because hunting stories can contain white lies, but because I like for the people involved to tell their hunting stories and I don't want to spoil anything. So here goes: Regional Outreach and Education Supervisor Warren Rose guided Public Service Assistant Hillary Bump on her first ever turkey hunt. He also guided his son on a memorable hunt. Now don't go feeling sorry for Warren thinking he didn't get to hunt. He was able to harvest two birds all by himself. Additional success stories from Southwest include Outdoor Skills

Specialist Jean Mayer harvesting her first bird! Included in this newsletter you'll find our disabled hunters' stories that Range Supervisor Michael Brooks provided for your reading enjoyment. Bringing up the rear is Andy Dalton Resource Assistant Dan VanDerhoef and yours truly. Dan and I hunted on a couple of occasions on public land surrounding Stockton Lake and we were both fortunate enough to harvest birds.



Warren and Nicholas Rose

Hillary Bump

While these stories all have happy endings, we as hunters know filled tags are not the ultimate goal. The time spent safely in the outdoors is the ultimate prize. Plus, I think the ones that get away keep us coming back for more. I do have some words of wisdom (to which some of you can relate I'm sure) for what makes a good turkey hunting partner...be on time, don't miss, and help pay for the gas!

Other notable activities this spring include hunter education volunteers from the Southwest Region serving as referees for the State High School Trapshoot. This event was held at Lynn Creek, Missouri on April 25th. Please join me in thanking these fine individuals. These folks set aside a full Saturday to help make this event a success.



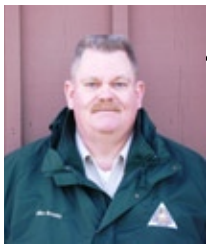
Staff and volunteers include (from left to right): Dan VanDerhoef, Joseph Martin, Josh Petty, Greg Collier, Doug West, Benny Williams, Nick Nichols, Kyle Case, and Kyle Schneider. (Not Pictured is Chuck and Lynn Pierce)

Congratulations to all the area teams that competed as well as the individuals. Southwest Missouri is well represented each year at this event and this year was no exception. If you get time, please go to the Missouri Trap Shooters Association's website (<http://www.motraps.com/youth-scores.asp>) for results.

On March 31st, the following individuals completed

the instructor training class, their first step to becoming Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors. Please join us in welcoming Kathy Butler (Jasper), Cyndi Cogbill (Newton), Paul Folbre' (Jasper), Richard Simpson (Barry), John Van Cleve (McDonald) & Cory Van Gilder (McDonald).

Letters will be going out soon informing you of our plans for the 2009 Southwest Region Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor's Banquet. For now, please reserve September 27th on your calendar. Plans are to conduct the event at the Andy Dalton Range and Outdoor Education Center. More information to follow. Thanks!



Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Mike Brooks
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As I write this I am reflecting back upon the first and second quarters of 2009 wondering where it has gone. We have been busy with several programs and events and as usual we are looking at an increase in these during the summer as public demand continues to grow.

During the first week of April we hosted the CONSEP "Cooperative North American Shotgunning Education Program" Enablement training for 14 new instructors led by its creator, Tom Roster. Ben Schlader and I are proud to welcome Tony Legg, Jeff Cockerham, Mark Reed, Jim Kuenzle, Eric Edwards, Jake Hindman, T.J. Peachner, and Greg Collier into these ranks. I know these folks will do a tremendous job in carrying the program into the future so be watching for upcoming "Effective Wingshooting, The CONSEP Way" programs being conducted around the state. There were also folks from Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and Delaware in attendance. If you have not yet attended one of these programs I would invite you to do so.

During the current school year the Springfield Public School System has piloted a program they call WOLF (Wonders of Outdoor Learning Facility). This program includes 2 classes of 5th grade students led by 2 outstanding teachers, Ms. Sue Dyle and Ms. Becky Ziegler. We have done all kinds of things with these children and recently we assisted the Protection Division with a wild game cooking program at the school where several of the Southwest Region Agents prepared all kinds of game for the children to taste test including, frog legs, turkey, venison, bison, elk, duck, and beaver. After the program was over we did an informal survey and learned that the barbeque beaver was the favored dish for most of the children. I appreciate our Agents and all they do!

On May 2nd and 3rd we hosted the 6th Annual Wheelin Sportsmen Disabled Person Spring Turkey Hunt. We hosted 17 hunters during the 2 day event and everyone saw or

heard birds and we were successful in harvesting one nice bird during the hunt. Mr. Gerald Cooper, age 83, a disabled veteran from the Mt. Vernon Missouri Veteran's Group home was participating in the first turkey hunt of his life. He was being guided by Mrs. Marti Davis of Willard who is a Pro Staffer with Bass Pro Shops, Hunter Specialties, and Parker Bows. She is an accomplished turkey hunter and excellent guide who gave her time and energy to assist with our hunt event. On Sunday mid morning Gerald harvested his first bird that weighed 22 ½ lbs, had a 9 3/8" beard and 1 1/8" spur.



Many of the events we conduct we can always use the assistance of the Southwest Region's dedicated Hunter Education Instructors. To better facilitate that I have decided to conduct a range operations familiarization program for any Hunter Education Instructor who has an interest in helping us either during Public Operations or programs and events. This will be a 2 hour course to provide you with an overview of your role in the range operation process. We will start at 6:30pm on August 6, 2009 at the range.

On July 19, 2009 9:00am to 4:30pm we are planning to host a day at Dalton Range for Hunter Education Graduates where when they present their Heritage Card or Temporary Hunter Education card we will allow them to shoot for free. This gives us an opportunity to speak with those individuals to remind them about the importance of good safety practices when handling firearms and ammunition.

Here are a few upcoming events and programs we can use your assistance with:

July:

- 22nd – FFA Advisors Basic Trap Shooting Program
- 25th – Bow Hunter Education
- 30th - Maranatha Bible School Shooting Sports Program

August:

- 15th – Entry Level Shotgun Program
- 22nd – Basic Archery Program
- 29th – Discover Nature Women's Dove Clinic
- 29th – Discover Nature Families Dove Clinic

September:

- 1st - Discover Nature Women Dove Hunt
- 1st - Discover Nature Families Dove Hunt
- 10th – Basic Archery Program

25th – Great Outdoors Day set-up

26th – Great Outdoors Day

October:

2nd – Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way Seminar

3rd & 4th- Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way Shooting Clinics



Southeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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When you think about Hunter Education, does summer come to mind? Some of us might just think about our traditional fall courses but summer is probably one of the best times to work with the kids and teach them about the outdoors. Requests for summer programs start coming in February just so educators can secure a date. If you have a day, during the week, think about volunteering with community groups and talk to the kids about hunter education. As instructors, you have free access to the numerous resources from MDC such as mammal trunks, turkey trunks, firearms safety teaching module, pellet-guns, etc. To me, firearms safety is the most important summer program we could provide to children often staying home alone (or with inexperienced babysitters) while parents are at work. The NRA Eddie Eagle program is a wonderful educational program for kids 4-10 teaching children what to do if they encounter a gun. I encourage you to take the program listed below on July 21 to gain the information and materials you need if you have any interest.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES SUMMER SKILLS SERIES INTERPRETIVE WORKSHOP FOR HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS



If you are interested in any of these outreach efforts mentioned above, mark July 21th down on your calendar for a teacher training outreach workshop. You will receive training on a number of different firearms safety related programs as well as become certified to check out equipment

to use in skills programs. You must be an active Hunter Education Instructor, teaching in the Southeast Region to attend this program. You will receive Hunter Ed hours and will become one of our Hunter Education Instructor “Pro Staff” members. After this training, you will be able to go into your community and conduct skills workshops (must be related to Hunter Education) as well as check out skills equipment. Registration required by calling 573-290-5858, ext. 225.

HUNTER EDUCATION ONLINE INSTRUCTOR TRAINING PROGRAM



Join me on August 28th, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at the Southeast Regional Office for Hunter Education Online Instructor Training. During this workshop, instructors will be provided information they need to teach a Hunter Education Online field day. Instructors will receive credit for the workshop and supper will be provided. These instructors will also have the option to instruct and implement the program at the Cape Nature Center on August 29. You must be an active Hunter Education Instructor. Registration required by calling 573-290-5858, ext. 225.

EFFECTIVE WINGSHOOTING, THE CONSEP WAY...

Okay, Hunter Education Instructors I don't have anyone registered yet! Let's practice what we preach.



Here is a course that will sharpen your shooting skills while providing you information about non toxic shot and the positive impact it has on our natural resources. In Chapter One, we teach our students to be responsible, accountable, and ethical. Our ethical responsibility is to teach our students the importance of acquiring the skills they need to kill and retrieve their birds. This workshop teaches and test adults

students on our distance estimation, how to properly pattern test your firearm, understand the ballistic properties of all non-toxic ammunition and adjust accordingly, and sharpen wingshooting skills. You must attend the seminar at Duck Creek on Friday and then return on Sunday for testing and skills improvement. You will need to bring along your hunting shotgun and chokes. We provide all the shells you can shoot and a hot lunch from Jay's BBQ. To register, call 573-290-5730. All instructors will receive credit for hours attended. Please attend, it's the ethical thing to do!



Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
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On March 24, David Glaskey along with Steve Elliott assisted the "Evening with Wildlife" program in Canton Missouri coordinated by the Lewis County agent, Brock McArdle. The program provided knowledge to the public on many different outdoor subjects from wildlife to land management. The main part of David and Steve's presentation was to hold an antler measurement seminar for the public. The program was answer questions about deer antlers and measurements, and actually score individual's deer antlers for Show-Me Big Buck.



The main highlights of the seminar were the antler scoring, a raptor and eagle program from the World Bird Sanctuary, various booths and exhibits set up by MDC and other state organizations, hunting groups, and a few



private outdoor related businesses. The door's opened at 6:00 pm and closed at 9:00 pm with an estimated attendance of 350 people for the event. The event was held due to the coordination from Agent Brock McArdle of Lewis County and other Northeast Region Agents.

The Lake City Range will have several Bowhunter Education classes this summer which offer instructors the opportunity to become bowhunter certified. The next Bowhunter Instructor course will be held on August 1st from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. This will be the last bowhunter instructor or student class scheduled for this year at Lake City. For more information on all Bowhunter Education classes in the Kansas City area, please contact KC Regional Office.



Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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KC Metro Instructors may not have had a lot of success in bagging their turkeys this spring but they put in a lot of effort and time into assisting youth and disabled hunters attempting to get theirs.

I was fortunate to be able to assist with the Hunter Education Class that the Missouri Hunter Heritage Federation had for their youth turkey hunt participants and observe their range session administered by instructors at their Lake Latowana session.

At the KC Region Smithville Youth and Disabled Hunter Managed Turkey Hunt, Instructor Tim Moore mentored a disabled hunter. With all of the years of hunting experience represented by the twenty hunters and mentors at the hunt, the only bird harvested was by a first time youth hunter.

Earlier in the turkey season instructors Heather Warrick, Jerry Bryant, Sean Luallen, "Skip" Doucette, James Thompson and David Glaskey braved a blizzard, winds, and high water to mentor youth at the Burr Oak Woods Youth Managed Hunt. Again with ten hunters and years of mentor hunt experience only one bird was harvested.

On May 15, 16, & 17 instructors took part in our annual River Training Weekend on the Missouri River. Andy Gerrard and Brenda Schulz made sure everyone had plenty to eat and several instructors camped out over the weekend. This event is to give instructors more knowledge on river navigation, commercial fishing regulations, boating safety regulations, fish identification

and how to set trot lines. All of this information assists instructors in answering questions in classes.

Chris Capps, Lafayette County agent, joined us for Saturday morning to ensure boats met all requirements and instructor Mike Mansell was in charge of the river navigation, trot line setting and fish identification. The navigation training was very timely since the river was at flood stage and there was a complete forest and other debris floating down the river.

Instructor Greg Rosenberg barely won the “kiddy pole” fishing competition that was part of the weekend event with his 7” fish caught.



A good morning on the river.

Greg & Moby Dick.

Fish caught over the weekend go toward the fish provided for the Instructor Cook Out in June.

KC Region Instructors will use June as a month to relax from classes and spend time with their family and friends.



St. Louis Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists (left to right)

Scott Sarantakis, St. Louis County

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Dennis Cooke, St. Louis City, N. St. Louis County

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Conrad Mallady, Crawford-Franklin-Jefferson-Washington Counties

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Kurt Otterstein, Lincoln-St. Charles-Warren Counties

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New Instructors

Beginning February 28, 2009 we started including Online Field Day training in our Hunter Education Instructor

certification courses. So graduates are now trained to teach both the traditional courses and the On Line Field Day courses as well. Following are the graduates of the Instructor certification course in Sullivan (no pictures):

Franklin County :	Brett Volmert Tina Whitley Lee Whitley Samuel Halmick
St. Louis County:	Bill Biele Stanley Knoeppel
St. Charles County:	Bill Henderson Jeff Johnson
Crawford County:	Larry McCloskey

Please help welcome the above new instructors to our team and contact your OSS to help get them involved in your classes.

The OSS's would like to say thank you to Erik Olmer & Robert Hendron for becoming chief instructors. You are doing great job. If any other instructor would like to start working to become a chief instructor please contact your OSS.

New Instructor Training and updates

New HED Instructor Certification Classes

- August 22, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and August 22, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., @ Busch Wildlife

We will also be having a new Bow Hunter Instructor Certification Class for current HED instructors who would also like to teach Bow Hunter Education.

- July 31, 6:00 p.m.. – 9:00 p.m., @ Powder Valley Nature Center.

For more information on these classes please contact your OSS.

There will be two Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way... Seminars and Clinics this fall. Please try to attend one of these dates.

- September 11- 13, Jay Henges Range and Training Center
- October 9- 11, Busch Wildlife Range and Training Center

Please contact either Jake Hindman or Eric Edwards if interested.

Online Classes

On May 16 the Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center hosted a HED online field day. We had 23 signed up with 15 showing up and getting certified. I would like to thank Floyd Bohler, Rex Vaughn, Jim McBride, Gene Bequette, and Liz Lyons for their help with this field day. Here is a listing of the next HED online Field Days:

- August 8, Powder Valley Nature Center, noon – 5 p.m.
- September 25, East Central College, 4 p.m.. – 10 p.m.
- October 3, Busch Wildlife, noon – 5 p.m.
- October 12, Busch Wildlife, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

If you would like to help with a class or come and observe

to see what the online field day is all about please contact your OSS.

The St. Louis Region has been selected as a pilot area to test the new online registration system for all Hunter Education courses. This means students will need to register online for any Hunter Education class (online field day or traditional 10-hour class) conducted in St. Louis City and in the Counties of St. Louis, Jefferson, Lincoln, Warren, Franklin, Washington, St. Charles, and Crawford. The online registration pilot program begins with any class starting on or after August 15, 2009. Students can begin online registration for those classes starting July 1, 2009. Those who don't have access to the internet can call our clerical staff at the MDC offices to register.

We would like chief instructors to attend a short training session on the new online pilot registration system to see how it will work. Any instructor may attend these trainings. Please contact Liz Lyons to sign up for a session if interested.

- July 20, 6:30 – 8 at Busch, classrooms C & D
- July 21, 6:30 – 8 at Columbia Bottom in Visitor Center classroom
- July 25, 8:30 – 10 at Powder Valley, classrooms C & D

Dates to Watch

Please mark these dates down on your calendar.

Please try to attend one of the following dates for Hunter Education Instructor quarterly meetings.

- July 16 at Sullivan
- August 13 at Forest Park
- December 3 at Busch

All of the meetings listed above will be from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

We have reserved the date of January 15, 2010, for our St. Louis Regional Hunter education Instructor Banquet. Location to be announced.

St. Louis Regional Contact Information

- Jennifer Dierking, Busch Wildlife, 636-300-1953, ext 249, jennifer.dierking@mdc.mo.gov
- Liz Lyons, Busch Wildlife, 636-300-1953, ext. 357, liz.lyons@mdc.mo.gov
- Dennis Cooke, Forest Park, 314-877-1309, dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov
- Conrad Mallady, Sullivan, 573-468-3335, ext 230, Conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov
- Kurt Otterstein, Busch Wildlife, 636-300-1953, ext 233, kurt.otterstein@mdc.mo.gov
- Scott Sarantakis, Powder Valley, 314-301-1506, ext 2257, scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov
- Eric Edwards, Busch Wildlife Shooting Range, 636-300-1953, ext 302, eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov
- Jake Hindman, Jay Henges Range and Training Center, 636-938-9548, jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov

A dog that barks much is never a good hunter. - Proverb



Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Ben Schlader

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Welcome to summer, which means one thing...looking forward to fall! The late winter and spring were certainly busy and productive. Between turkey season, youth clinics/hunts and of course meeting and trainings, the calendar stayed very full. Before the summer gets away from us, please be sure to make note of the following events.

August 22nd. NE Region Hunter Ed Instructor Banquet. Middle of Nowhere Gun and Archery Club. Harris, MO. Middle of Nowhere is located in Sullivan County and is owned and operated by Dennis Goldsmith, Hunter Ed Instructor. Dennis has a great facility and has graciously agreed to host this year's banquet. We'll begin the banquet at 11AM, eat at noon and finish up with some presentations after lunch. Afterwards, we will head out and enjoy the range. There will be rifle, pistol, 3-D and practice archery as well as shotgun 5-stand available. All instructors will receive and rsvp card in the mail regarding the banquet. Please fill out and return or contact me by phone or e-mail.

September 1st. Youth Dove Hunt. Location TBA. As many of you know from first-hand experience, this is a fun event and one it would be great to see more participation in. Any instructors are welcome to help out, but even if you can't, please be sure to pass the word onto young hunters you may know.

October 3rd-5th. Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way... Ted Shanks Conservation Area, Pike County. We're up and going strong this year with a full team of 10 instructors holding 10 programs around the state. If you've not yet made it to a CONSEP event I strongly recommend attending. The program is time well spent and will provide you with information useful both in the field and classroom.

Instructor Certification Courses (for new instructors):

- July 29th. Kirksville MDC Office.
- August 6th. Hannibal MDC Office.

For more information or to register for these events please contact me at 660-785-2420 or ben.schlader@mdc.mo.gov

One last note, in each newsletter I try to mention a topic that we could possibly improve upon in the NE Region. This time I thought I'd focus on communication. I occasionally hear from instructors who would like to help out more but are not aware of when classes are taking place. While we do our best to keep everyone involved, a large portion of this responsibility falls to the instructors themselves. We are faced with a continually different instructor roster, a class schedule that changes day to day and limited amounts of time and budget. Combined, these factors make keeping

everybody up to date a very difficult, if not impossible task. Often, the instructors that stay involved with Hunter Education are those that take the initiative to keep the lines of communication open. As everyone knows, Conservation Agents are the resource at the county level for Hunter Ed classes and information. These folks do a great job of staying in touch with instructors and assisting with classes in their counties. Of course, instructors are also always welcome to give me a call or e-mail regarding classes that you might like to help out with. And, if you have internet access, a list of classes can be found at <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/cgi-bin/heclass/search.cgi?region=Northeast>

Thanks again for all of the hard work and enjoy the summer!



Jim Robertson, Hunter Ed Instructor from Knox County, assists a young hunter as he patterns a shotgun at the Spring Turkey Clinic in Ralls County on March 28th.

in the two districts this spring. It's always rewarding to see kids discover how much fun it is to participate in an outdoor event. When it's turkey hunting, they also find out it can evolve a little work. One of our clinic participants wanted to learn to use a slate turkey call. He wasn't doing very well at the end of the day, but you could tell he was determined to master the process. His mother later called and told me that he would practice for hours (much to the dismay of the family dog) and was rewarded for his determination by calling in his first bird, and missing the shot! Welcome to the great sport of turkey hunting!



I want to thank the many volunteers that helped with clinics and hunts, and encourage others to get involved in the future.

Snagging season was more about me learning than about me teaching. I had snagged a little before, but my new homestead is right in the middle of Paddlefish Central, so now I had to learn the ways of the locals.

I was taught some very valuable lessons. For example, if you're in a rain storm and you're not getting fuel to the carburetors of your boat motor. The first thing you should check is the tank. Also, cotton clothes line is NOT adequate to tie a 60lb spoon bill to the side of your boat! Another thing is that it's very hard to convince someone that normally keeps 9 inch crappie that a 33inch fish has to go back in the water.

Even with all the hardships, we had a good run. Myself, and my two oldest sons all snagged our first fish, and then enough that we got tired of cleaning them. I also had some guests from time to time that got to experience catching their first spoonie.

The spring has kept me busy with school programs. A special thanks to the school teachers that find a way to work Hunter Education in to the curriculum. And thanks also to the agents of the districts for working closely with the schools to promote outdoor skills.

Lastly, it's time to start thinking about fall classes. If you haven't already set some dates, please do so in the near future and send them in.

As always, Hunt safe!



Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
Mark Miller
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Greetings from the Sedalia and Clinton Districts.

This article is due June 1st. That's also the one year anniversary of my arrival to Sedalia. I rolled into town with a camper on my truck, and no real plan about how I was going to survive for a month and a half. A year later and I have a house that needs painting, grass that needs mowed, and a baseball team that can't throw or hit the ball. Life is back to normal.

This first year has been a tremendous adventure. I have met many new people, and had a lot of new experiences, both professionally, and personally. I want to thank everyone I have worked with this past year for making me feel welcome, and for your dedication to what you do. There are still some of you I have yet to meet; (especially in the Clinton District) I look forward to doing so in the near future.

This quarter has been quite exciting. The highlights for me were the youth turkey hunts and snagging season.

We worked with several youth Turkey hunts and Clinics



Ozark Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Larry Lindeman

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Ole Doc

It was once said that in his lifetime, every man is entitled to one good dog. I may have already had mine, but I'll keep trying for that perfect one. As for my "good" dog, Doc did have some flaws; he wasn't particularly fond of hunting dead birds, especially when he could see where the covey landed following the rise. Doc did however have the softest mouth of any bird dog I have ever hunted over, according to some, animals are not supposed to think or reason, but if Doc couldn't, he sure fooled me.

I guess it was an accident that I lucked into getting him to be soft-mouthed, for I was unaware at the time what likely developed that trait. The intelligence surely had to be bred into him for I learned to quail hunt from him, he was a natural at hunting quail.

Doc was almost a gift. In the summer of 1971, I got him when he was 5 months old because his owners could no longer keep the beast in their garage. For the low price of just \$15.00 I got a (subject to be registered), liver and white pointer named Huckleberry (the name the kids had given him just had to be changed), along with a collar, a choke chain, a tie-out, a dog dish and half a sack of Houn' Dawg dog food.

A couple of weeks after getting the new dog, I moved to Camden county and was fortunate enough to have quail nearby in what was essentially my backyard. I worked with Doc on obedience and retrieving and took him with me everywhere; I even built him a quality dog house.

Little did I know that when the dove season began, getting the young dog to retrieve doves probably resulted in him being so tender mouthed. I was told that dogs hate to get feathers in their mouth, and the breast feathers of a dove apparently come out easily and adhere to the wet lips of a dog. I have witnessed my dog rolling over a dove to pick it up by a wing or gingerly hold both wings together if the entire bird was in his mouth.

In the years he was mine, I never knew of Doc chomping down on a winged quail to kill it or eat a bird regardless of how badly it was shot up. In fact, one of his most memorable points was made after I managed to drop 2 birds from the covey rise and began to go after the scattered singles. I just winged the first single that Doc pointed. Doc went after the downed bird and caught it while it was running. He brought him back to me in a very much alive condition. As he moved closer to me, I could see that it was turning its head from side to side looking around. When Doc was less than 20 feet from me, he caught wind of another single and locked up on solid

point... The dog's breath was condensing in the cold air, his sides were heaving in and out and I could see his twitching nostrils as he strained to keep bringing in the scent of the hiding quail. I enjoyed the moment of that particular point by waiting a bit longer than usual before moving in for the flush...after I was still for a few seconds, Doc's head slowly turned around and he looked at me as if to say. "Aren't you ever gonna kick this one out?"

I was still amused since the quail in his mouth had never stopped turning its head from side to side, and was blinking and looking around. When the bird on the ground finally flushed, I managed to get off a clean shot and achieved that desired quick, clean kill. As Doc ran out to retrieve the last bird to fall, he put the one in his mouth down, and picked up the freshest only to have the winged bird attempt to run off again...he looked back at me again as if to say "What do I do now"...I gave a hand signal and he dropped the most recent without hesitation and once again chased down the winged bird. This time, he brought it to me without sniffing out another single, and immediately proceeded to retrieve the other bird.

Here's more evidence the dog could think. I kept Doc chained to a black jack oak in the front yard, and he only once got his chain wrapped around the tree preventing him from getting into his house. If the chain was ever too short, he would take off running around the tree. If that move didn't give him adequate length, he would just switch directions until it did. The only occasion where he failed to get back into his house resulted when a large, dead limb fell off the black jack during a thunder storm and the chain became entangled with the fallen limb. Doc had sat down in the downpour and began howling for help. After investigating the cause for his ruckus, I removed the branch and as expected, he unwound the chain and took off for his dry house.

That fall, just before Thanksgiving, I was loading my car preparing to head out for a couple of days and I had made arrangements for the neighbors to feed and water Doc. Just outside his house, I had placed three one-gallon cans with table scraps containing turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and dressing. There was a cold, south-east wind blowing and his house faced directly into the wind. I observed Doc as he, one at a time, clamped down with his teeth and took all three cans into his house. He then proceeded to stack them up, two on the bottom and the one remaining can was placed on top of the other two thereby blocking the entrance to his house. After completing his task he poked out his nose just to the side of the top can. I can only assume this was his attempt to block the wind, for he had never stacked cans before.

After seeing an unbelievable play, I was likened to the former St. Louis Cardinals announcer, the late Jack Buck..."I couldn't believe what I just saw"! I took out all three cans to see if he'd do it again...he did. After his first repeat performance, I ran to the house and summoned my wife to come witness Doc's actions. We watched in silence as he

went through the same routine four more times! I wanted to see how many times Doc would drag the cans back in, so for the 6th time, out came the cans. This time, Doc came out, walked over beside me, sat down and looked directly at me as if to say, "I'm done...no more!"

We finished loading the car and as we were pulling out of the driveway, Doc again, grabbed the first can and headed into his house. I drove to the nearest spot to turn around for I just had to satisfy my curiosity. As I drove past, all three cans were once again neatly stacked in front of the door and Doc poked his nose out and took a peek. I didn't have the heart to drag out the cans again and went on with my trip.

However, lest you think that Doc was a genius, consider that I once gave him some strawberry ice cream that had begun to crystallize. Rather than gulp it down, Doc grabbed the frozen chunk of ice cream from his dish and proceeded to bury it.

I have fond memories of Doc and the many hunts we took. Perhaps this story will cause readers to recall some fond memories of their own.



Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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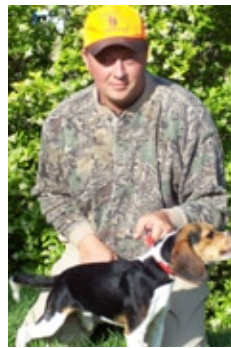
Spring is finally here and things have been quite busy here in Northwest region. I would like to say thank you to all the Hunter Education instructors for all the hard work and dedication that make this program the great one that it is. Also, many thanks to the Conservation Agents for their hard work in providing support for this program.

Earlier this spring 18 new hunter education instructors were certified. The new instructors are: Victoria Ward, Richard Pawling, Denton Benson, Robert Johnson, Richard Dirnbeck, John Bernal, Clay Lutz, Sarah Spiers, Shawn Sutton, Rachael Booth, Amy North, Carol Clark, Jacob Wiese, Mickey Sigmon, Jesse Jennings, Abbie Tucker, Abby Sallee, and Lisa Montgomery. Of the 18 participants, 16 are students from the Wildlife Society at Missouri Western State University.

The Wildlife Society advisor is fellow Hunter Education Instructor, Dr. Cary Chevalier, aka Doc C. Having these students at our St. Joe regional office is a great asset. It is a wonderful opportunity for them to work on their public speaking skills and to team up with veteran instructors to present the Missouri Hunter Education Program. Although we may only have some of them in the region temporarily, they will bring their experience and knowledge to other parts of the state and continue to volunteer. Other instructor trainings this spring have included teachers from Cameron

Middle and Cameron High School so they can incorporate Hunter Education in the school curriculum.

In other news, Hunter Ed instructors Bill Bravo, Bill Coverdell, and David Rapson from the Northwest region traveled to Linn Creek for the State Trapshooting Tournament. It was a great event seeing all the young people having fun and most importantly handling their firearms in a safe manner. Also in the region, I have recently conducted shooting clinics for two schools. The first one was on May 4th at the MDC shooting range at Elam bend with students from Eagleville and the second was on May 8th at the MDC shooting range at Gallatin with students from Breckenridge. We shot plenty of clay targets and we also did some small bore shooting. This was well received by all the students.



Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
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In July Busch Range will be closed until the 25th when you can join us for the Expo.

In August there will be a Discover Nature Families Dress for Hunting Success class on August 12th from 6 – 9pm.

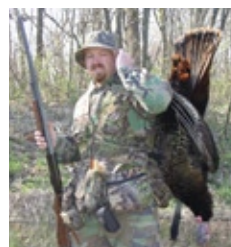
We will be having a Discover Nature Women Basic Shotgun class on Aug. 15th from 2 – 8pm, and we will be having.

A Basics of Wing Shooting class on Aug. 29th from 4 – 7pm.

In Sept. we will be having a youth dove clinic on Sept. 3rd, followed by a youth dove hunt on Sept. 5th. They must attend the clinic in order to participate in the hunt.

We will also have a MO Bow Hunters Ed. class on Sept. 12th from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

Also on the 19th of Sept. we will be having a scope mounting and bored sighting class from 10:00 am until noon.



Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
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As I currently sit in my air-conditioned office writing, I watch the mercury rise on the outside thermometer. The forecast calls for 91°F today and there's not a cloud in the sky. It's hot outside. Turkey season is over. Crappie spawn is over. Chiggers, mosquitoes, and ticks are out in full force. I can sit here all day and make excuses about why not to be

outside, but as I sit here in comfort, I can't help but reflect on the past.

There was a time when I didn't care that it was hot. I didn't care that the bugs were out. I can vividly remember the summers of my youth growing up on the family produce farm. Once school got out for the summer, the days were all the same routine, yet everyday was a new adventure. The mornings started early, as my grandpa didn't like to work in the heat of the day. There would be planting, pruning, weeding, fertilizing, watering, picking, washing, and selling of all the produce. Though this was a lot of work, we could usually get this done just in time for *As the World Turns* to start on TV, one of Grandpa's favorite programs.

The next few hours, the hottest part of the day, belonged to us kids. We never had a hard time deciding what to do. The creek behind the house was teeming with crawdads, bullfrogs, green sunfish, creek chubs, and the occasional "monster" bass, which usually measured around 12". On occasion, we would make the long $\frac{3}{4}$ mile trek to the two ponds. Here we were after BIG FISH! BASS! LOTS OF 'EM! Only one thing stood in the way. Thick mats of Lotus choked out all the water from the shore 30-40 yards out, too far for a young boy to cast. My cousin, brother, and I would all wade out chest deep in the black muck cratered by cattle hooves. We learned that in doing so we could cast to the opening in the middle of the pond. Sacrificing our bodies to the bites of water bugs and our clothes to the mucky water we could catch 15" bass on nearly every cast.

Of course, there was no shortage of things to shoot at either. Sparrows were all around the house and barns. The woods were filled with squirrels and lots of other satisfying targets like knot holes in trees and glass bottles in the old dump back in the holler.

Times that weren't spent fishing or shooting were used to develop the next "invention" that would help make us all more successful in hunting, fishing, and shooting. Some days were used for "product research" like finding the best slingshot ammo. You see, ball bearings were the kinds of things that came along only once in a while. They were often given only as rewards or as birthday presents and such. (If you're interested, Pin Oak acorns, hickory nuts, Kentucky Coffeetree seeds, and Lotus seeds all make acceptable ammo and each has advantages and disadvantages. Limestone gravel from the driveway will work, but has a lot of edges and flat spots that will not allow it to fly straight. I suggest taking the time to find the roundest, smoothest pieces possible.)

Looking back, it is incredible to me the difference that just a couple hours in the heat of the day can make in the life of a child. Make sure you take the opportunity to get out with a child you know to create those lasting memories.

Parma Woods has a calendar full of events that may help. If interested in attending or helping instruct just contact the range at (816)891-9941.

July

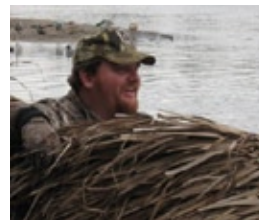
- 15, 16 Intro to Handgun
- 21-23 Discover Nature Women-Intro to Shotgun Shooting
- 25 Discover Nature Families-Home Firearms Safety
- 29, 30 Bowhunter Education Class

August

- 1 Hunter Education Class
- 2 Introduction to Fly Tying *NEW*
- 4-6 Hunter Education Class
- 12 Shotgun Patterning
- 13, 15 Discover Nature Women-Handgun Basics
- 19, 20 Bowhunter Education
- 21, 22 Discover Nature Families-Catfishing Clinic *NEW*
- 26, 27 Discover Nature Families-Dove Hunting Clinic

September

- 2 Scouting for Deer
- 3 Tracking Wounded Game
- 5 Bowhunting for Beginners
- 8-10 Hunter Education Class
- 11, 12 Youth Squirrel Hunt
- 15-17 Rifle Shooting for Hunters *NEW*
- 19 Hunter Education Class
- 20 Trapping Education Class
- 23 Fall Turkey Hunting Clinic
- 30 .22 Rifle Plinking



Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Brian Flowers

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Wow, where has the time gone! We're over half way through 2009 and the fall hunter ed rush will soon be here. It seems the older I get the faster time flies. It must be some kind of universal law or something. Anyway, things have been busy around the Central Region. Outdoor skills programs are as busy as ever. It seems that every school in the region wants to go fishing for summer school, so that means I'll be baiting a lot of hooks and that won't be good for the worm population. Summer is also the time when our staff provides "for-credit" workshops for teachers. These programs are provided throughout the State and are a great way for teachers to learn conservation lessons to pass along to students. I will soon be organizing Hunter education materials that will be issued to your Conservation Agents in August. Please work with the Agents to plan your classes, obtain the materials you need and also return any unused materials. A big thank you to the volunteer instructors who helped at the State High School Trap Shoot and YHEC.

I was reminded in May why I have such a great wife. My

wife JoAnne was fortunate to be chosen to represent her professional organization at a conference in Perth, Western Australia. Fortunately for me she allowed me to accompany her on the trip overseas. We left on May 1st from St. Louis and after about 16 hours in the air, arrived in Auckland, New Zealand on the morning of May 3rd. While in New Zealand we toured the country side and visited several unique attractions. In Rotoura we visited the “Kiwi experience”, a conservation center and effort to restore Kiwi.



Male Kiwi with egg are able to collect eggs from the wild and bring them to a lab for incubation where they have over 90% hatching success. To date, over 500 kiwi have been hatched at the Rotoura location and returned to the wild.

One of the main reasons we stopped over in New Zealand was to visit the Maori cultural sites. The Maori are the indigenous Polynesian people of New Zealand and anyone who knows me very well knows that I can't miss an opportunity to take in the Polynesian culture. We visited Te Puia, a Maori cultural center where they teach students the skills of carving and weaving passed down from their ancestors. Another unique feature of NZ is that all school students learn both the English and Maori language. After two years, the student chooses which language they would like to continue to study.

After leaving New Zealand we flew to Perth, Western Australia (WA). Perth is the capitol of WA and is located on the Swan River. Perth is considered the most isolated metropolitan area in the world, being over 2,000 miles from another city.

After spending time in Perth we flew almost 1,000 miles north to the town of Broome, WA. Broome



Ohinemutu Marae, a Maori meeting house in Rotoura, NZ

is considered the gateway to the Kimberley region of WA and the Kimberley is the outback of the outback. For those of you who have seen the recent movie “Australia” which was centered on Darwin, Broome was also bombed by the Japanese during WWII. While in the Kimberley region we visited the outback on a scenic boat tour up the Fitzroy River and Geike Gorge, as well as went sea kayaking in the Indian

Ocean off of cable beach.

On May 13th we began backtracking through Australia and New Zealand to the US where we arrived on May 15th after 14 days, 10 flights and approximately 25,000 miles. Needless to say, I don't want to even see another airplane for awhile.



Missouri Archers Compete at NASP Nationals



For the first time, Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program (MoNASP) students competed at the NASP national tournament held on May 8 & 9, 2009 in Louisville, Kentucky. The event turned out to be the

largest archery tournament in world history. 4,565 student archers competed at the tournament, including five Missouri teams plus six individuals.

TEAMS

Perry Christian Academy, Perry Willard Middle School, Willard Crane MS, Crane George Guffey Elementary, Fenton Helias High School, Jefferson City

INDIVIDUALS

Adrianna Herrman (Longview Farm Elem., Lee's Summit)
Haley Belt (Otterville MS)
Connor Melzer (Maries Co.—Bland)
Joseph Schatz (Eagle Glen Intermediate, Raymore)
Daniel Langley (Hurley HS)
Josh Flood (Hurley HS)



Missouri kids performed well, including Joseph Schatz, a 6th grader from Raymore who won 17th place in the Elementary Male Division with a score of 277 (out of 300) and Jordan Lewis, a 5th grader from Fenton who won 3rd place in the Elementary Female Division with a score of 279.

NASP is growing quickly in Missouri, where it is now taught in 76 schools to over 12,000 students. NASP will hold its first world tournament in Orlando on October 7-11, 2009. More information about the tournament and the program can be found at www.nasparchery.com.



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"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt